

Bristol, May 4th - Wed. Friday.

Recd. May 18.

My dear Mr. May,

I have complied with
your request, & fulfilled my promise
of writing to Mr. Coffin such a letter
as it appears to me you wish to have
transmitted to him. If it be not
exactly what you wish, I have no hesi-
tation ⁱⁿ leaving it to your discretion
to make any desirable alteration, pro-
vided the fact of my having been asked
to write to Mr. C. be not so mystified as
might to preclude all inference that such ~~was~~
~~have been~~ the case. I wish neither to state, nor
to deny it; — to give indeed no illus-
tration or example of either definition
in the Logician's pentameter, "Simulo"
"quod non est, dissimulogue quod est."

My letter by last Saturday's packet
announcing the receipt of yours of
April 5, with, I presume arrived in
due course — Be pleased to present

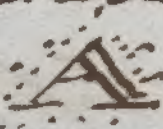
my compliments to Mr. Coffin, and
thank him for his letter. I have a
particular friend of his peculiar name
living at Landoff. Gleanings are his.

As soon as I have a little time, I will
communicate with Mr. Lobs about Mr.
Coffin's letter, but I by no means feel
certain of his willingness to engage to
insert a series of papers in the Engⁿ.

The packet I spoke of as going by
the "Mary Jane", Capt. England, of this
port to Boston, is on board, & perhaps
on its way to America. I have ad-
vised it as usual to your father, with
your name below: the agents told me
it must be engaged for when the
ship arrives. There is nothing of value
in it but 25/- - payments to the
"Liberator" & "Standard". - I beg however,
Miss Carpenter's pardon; she gave me
a parcel for Mr. Waterston. I know she
has heard from Mr. W. since making up
this parcel, as she sent me his letter

for funeral as well as one from Miss
Ware on the death of A. M. H. Ware -

After writing to you last week, as it ac-
curred to me that you might not see the
"Inquirer" containing Prof. the article
about Mr. R. Carpenter, so I sent you
my copy. - By this mail I forward
last week's "Inquirer" containing
Hutton's comment on Prof. Cary's letter
and a Report of the meeting of the Wed.
Chr. Union held in Bristol. -

Mr. Burroughs, whose name you may
know as a celebrated chemist, the dis-
cussor of arsenic in the stomach of many
murdered people who is one of the Bristol
visiting Magistrates, was present at the
execution of Sarah Thomas, and showed
me the paper ^{covered} with writing & drawing on
which she had been amusing herself
at 12 O'clock at night, her execution
being to take place at 10 in the morning.
The alphabet was printed & ornamented
like this:  &c, with much other, & va-
rious elaborate figuring. Mr. H. said

she was ^{not} mad or weak, but child like in
the ^{uplifted} thoughts: that she did not come about
the loss of life, but shrank from the
suffering she anticipated. The subject
~~has just been~~ of death penalty has not
has just been discussed in the H. of C.
& this case alluded to: the abolition of the
penitentiary is gaining supporters, but
not enough yet to carry it. I am not
convinced of either the duty or policy of
timely abolishing death penalty, but should
like to see Govt. try the experiment.

The tone of the supporters of the present
law in the House is serious & deliberate,
nothing like of lightness or overindulgence
in it.

Will you present to Miss Weston the
best thanks of Mrs. (Joseph) Fry ^{my daughter} for
a copy of the "Liberty Bell." I must write her
a short letter having to attend the annual meeting
of the trustees of the Asylum for the blind, & to
read the "Report," an extract from which is
in the parcel. I have no time now to
attend Mr. Wright's lecture Mr. Garrison, and
but only to subscribe myself

Yours sincere friend

J. B. Colburn

Miss Carpenter will thank you to let Mr. Weston
have the note enclosed.